



Phyllis K. Erickson

Quick Facts

Birth: 1923, Amarillo, Texas

Death: 2013, Tacoma WA

Occupation:

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Years served: 1973-81

Office: Representative

District: 2 (Pierce, Thurston Counties)

Personal:

- Married to Jack Erickson 1923; 4 children

Education:

- Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Utah in 1945

Community Service:

- First woman elected to the Franklin Pierce School Board, 1962
- School Board, chairman
- District XI Community College Board, chairman
- P.T.A.
- Hospital and Mental Health boards
- Pierce County Library Foundation, board of directors, member
- South Puget Sound Higher Education Coalition
- Tacoma Musical Playhouse
- Toastmaster Club, president
- County Cancer Crusade, chair

Affiliations:

- League of Women Voters (Parkland Unit), founder
- American Cancer Society
- Grange
- American Association of University Women (AAUW)

Legislative & State Service:

- Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, commissioner
- Resigned May 11, 1981 to become a member of the Pierce County Council.

Committees: (1973) Constitution and Elections; Higher Education; Ways and Means, Revenue (1975) Revenue, vice-chair; Agriculture (1977) Higher Education, chair; Insurance; Revenue (1979) Constitution, Elections and Governmental Ethics, Democratic chair; Higher Education; Revenue (1981) Human Services; Institutions; Local Government, ranking minority member

Leadership, Positions & Appointments:

- Pierce County Councilmember, 1981-1986. Served as chairwoman in 1981. Elected to the county council for the first term after the county switched from having county commissioners.

Sources:

- "Erickson to head county council," by Joseph Turner, *The News Tribune*, May 2, 1981.
- *Ray Moore: An Oral History*, interviewed by Sharon Boswell, Washington State Oral History Program, Office of the Secretary of State, 1999